

## **EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

### **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE - 28 MARCH 2000**

#### **PROPOSED RELOCATION OF HEALTH CARE FACILITIES WITHIN THE POLICE STATION, DRONGAN**

##### **Report by Chief Executive**

### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1** To advise on discussions with the Primary Health Care NHS Trust with regard to the possible relocation of existing health care facilities within Drongan.

### **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1** The Primary Health Care Trust have identified primary health care facilities in Drongan and Dalmellington as priorities for improvement.
- 2.2** Proposals in respect of Dalmellington are set out in a separate report to this Committee.
- 2.3** The existing primary care accommodation located within the General Practice Surgeries in Drongan are considered to be inadequate for patients, staff and community needs. The main problem is lack of space which inevitably means that the full range of required health care services cannot be delivered. There are also significant deficiencies with the existing premises' infrastructure and overall environment. In addition, there are access issues, especially in relation to meeting disability discrimination legislation and a lack of specific car parking has also caused difficulties. There is general agreement that in moving towards the Primary Health Care NHS Trust's vision of community based health systems which integrate medical care and social services, there is a pressing need to extend the range of services presently available to the local community.
- 2.4** Through established officer liaison arrangements between the Council and the Primary Health Care NHS Trust the potential for joint working to resolve the problems identified above has been investigated.

### **3. CURRENT POSITION**

- 3.1** The existing Police station in Drongan has been identified as a possible location for relocation of the primary care facilities in Drongan.

- 3.2** At a preliminary meeting to discuss this proposal, representatives of Strathclyde Police and the Primary Health Care NHS Trust indicated their interest in investigating this proposal further. Detailed discussions will be required on the financial implications and a full cost benefit analysis will be undertaken.
- 3.3** The possibility of relocating the Local Office in Drongan to the new complex was also given consideration and it was agreed that further investigations regarding the feasibility of providing a multi-purpose community based facility comprising of the local Police office, Council Local Office and primary care facilities at this location within Drongan should be further explored.

#### **4. POTENTIAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

- 4.1** The issue of funding is key to the viability of any of the options which might be available to the Primary Health Care NHS Trust in providing for improved health care facilities in Drongan. The limited capital budget available to the Trust is such that a new build is not viable within existing capital resources.
- 4.2** An important funding opportunity has arisen through the Scottish Executive Health Department's Primary Community Care Premises Modernisation Programme. Bids to access this £12m programme are presently being invited from Primary Health Care NHS Trusts and Island Health Boards and require to be submitted to the Scottish Executive by 14 April 2000. This funding is available for 2000/2001 and 2001/2002 to support the development of primary and community care projects.
- 4.3** The Primary Health Care NHS Trust considers that this partnership model which would provide primary health care and access to Council services and Strathclyde Police on the same site would stand an excellent chance of success in accessing the available funding.
- 4.4** It should be noted that whilst the modernisation programme does not preclude the submission of capital funding bids for new build developments, experience has shown that given the limited size of the fund and the desire by the Scottish Executive to develop as many projects as possible, new build projects with their associated high capital costs have far less chance of success than refurbishment projects.

#### **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1** None arising directly from this report. Any financial implications arising from further more detailed negotiations, say in respect of the relocation of the Local Office which would be minimal, would require to be contained within the existing financial allocations for the current year.

## **6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

**6.1** None arising directly from this report.

## **7. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

**7.1** The proposals contained within this report are consistent with the arrangements in place for joint health and social care for people requiring community based services in East Ayrshire.

## **8. CONCLUSION**

**8.1** This project would provide a one-stop access point to primary health care, Police and Council services within Drongan and, given the availability of potential funding under the Scottish Executive Health Department's Primary and Community Care Premises Modernisation Programme and the need to improve existing primary health care facilities in Drongan it is felt that it merits further investigation.

## **9. RECOMMENDATIONS**

**9.1** It is recommended that the Committee:

- (i) intimate their support in principle for the proposed creation of a one-stop community based facility comprising local Police office, Council Local Office and primary care facilities in Drongan Police Station and their support for any subsequent funding bid which the Primary Health Care NHS Trust may submit in this respect;
- (ii) authorise the Chief Executive to enter into detailed negotiations with the Primary Health Care NHS Trust and Strathclyde Police on the basis of the arrangements proposed;
- (iii) note that a further report on the outcome of these negotiations will be submitted to the next meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee; and

- (iv) otherwise note the content of this report.

David Montgomery  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
24 March 2000  
FL/JL/AMD

### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

1. Letter dated 24 February 2000 from Agnes Robson, Director of Primary Care, Health Department, Scottish Executive providing details of the Primary and Community Care Premises Modernisation Programme.

Any person wishing to inspect the background papers listed above should telephone James Lally on Tel No 01563 576148. Any person wishing further information in this report should contact Fiona Lees, Depute Chief Executive on Tel No 01563 576019.

**AGENDA**